## State of Vermont Executive Department A Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the State of Vermont is committed to ensuring the safety and security of all those living in and visiting our state; and

WHEREAS, low blood supply is a public safety concern both locally and nationally, and our hospitals and medical centers need to sustain a healthy supply for our residents and visitors; and

**WHEREAS**, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that there are more than 6.8 million blood donors in the United States and an estimated 4.5 million patients receive blood annually; and

**WHEREAS,** one pint of blood can save the lives of up to three patients, and although an estimated 38% of the U.S. population is eligible to donate blood at any given time, less than that eligible population actually participate in blood donation each year; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Red Cross Blood Services Northern New England Region and other organizations work hard to maintain the blood supply for patients in need; and

**WHEREAS**, it is through the efforts of generous blood donors that the American Red Cross and other organizations can provide for patients in need; and

**WHEREAS**, Vermont is home to a number of committed public service and private organizations working to raise awareness about the importance of blood donation, including the American Red Cross, the Dr. Daliah Show, and many others; and

**WHEREAS,** National Blood Donation Week and individual state Blood Donation Days serve to remind us that we need to replenish our blood supply through donation and community awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Peter Shumlin, Governor, do hereby proclaim September 10, 2016 as

## **BLOOD DONATION DAY**

in Vermont, and urge all residents to support our local blood drives.

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Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of Vermont on this 5th day of August, A.D. 2016.

Peter Shumlin Governor